

Army acquisition community has honored its paramount commitment to meet the needs of soldiers in combat missions today. However, Dr. O'Neill also reenergized the Army's efforts to develop advanced soldier capabilities for tomorrow's conflicts. He reminded us that scientific and technical advancements play a critical role in maintaining the Army's unparalleled preeminence in the future. As the lead Army acquisition official, Dr. O'Neill made significant progress in developing a vigorous and robust science and technology portfolio incorporating the combined efforts of Army scientists, labs, advisory boards and other stakeholders. These accomplishments will leave an indelible impact on the Army's warfighting capabilities.

Dr. O'Neill's emphasis on sound management and execution of major weapon systems has helped the Army to prioritize capabilities and modify existing programs to achieve long-term success. He has played a critical role in bringing the Army requirements, resourcing, testing, and acquisition communities together to make informed decisions and adjustments within key programs. As the Army and Department of Defense continue to transform through an era of limited resources, Dr. O'Neill championed the importance of wise investments, competition, and sound acquisition strategies to ensure that more money was spent on the warfighting capabilities of our soldiers and less on overhead. The Army is in a better position to adapt to an ever-changing environment of competing needs as a result of his efforts.

Three words define this dedicated public servant: honor, integrity, and courage. The Nation is in his debt for his many accomplishments during the long and distinguished career of Malcolm Ross O'Neill.●

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHALLENGE DAIRY PRODUCTS

● Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues a milestone that has been reached by an important cooperative association responsible for the marketing and distribution of dairy products from 450 California family-owned dairies.

Challenge opened for business under the name of Challenge Cream & Butter Association 100 years ago with four employees and a wagon. That first day, Challenge sold 12 pounds of butter. Today, Challenge Butter is the largest butter brand in the West, and Challenge Dairy is the leading dairy foodservice provider in California, with eight distribution centers spanning the State in Lodi, San Leandro, Monterey, Fresno, Santa Maria, Ventura, Los Angeles, and San Diego. Challenge directly employs over 175 hard-working California citizens and has aided thousands of California dairy farmers in their success over the years. Today, more than 450 dairies are part of Chal-

lenge's cooperative, putting tens of millions of dollars into California's economy annually.

Challenge's success is made up of dedicated California dairy farmers and employees who have ensured the quality of all products produced from each of its creameries. Early on, dairymen realized marketing was and remains to be key in successfully spreading the word about the quality of their products, which was why Challenge was conceived.

The benefits of farmer cooperation were so effective that the status of every single dairyman was materially improved, just from their existence. A leader in quality improvement, Challenge established the standards all other dairy organizations followed. Thus, Challenge has figuratively held a protective umbrella over farm endeavors, for the good of the farmers and the Nation, for more than a century.

By refusing to sell any item that didn't meet the highest standards, Challenge built a reputation for quality. That reputation has grown as Challenge led the way in the dairy industry with product and manufacturing innovations such as the aluminum butter churn, the first successful metal butter churn in the world.

Now a wholly owned subsidiary of California Dairies, Inc. CDI, California's largest dairy provider and the second largest in the country, Challenge has grown to represent more than 450 dairy farmers and markets nearly half of CDI's butter supply. CDI has six manufacturing facilities that are located throughout the central valley and directly employs over 740 people.

Challenge has operated through two World Wars and the Great Depression in addition to a number of other obstacles. Through it all, the company adapted and persevered to continue fulfilling the people's need for quality dairy products and support the dairy farmers behind producing products. We believe Challenge embodies the determination and the spirit of the people of California.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with

accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1945. A communication from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; Oversight of Contractor Ethics Programs" ((RIN9000-AL92)(FAC 2005-52)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 31, 2011; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1946. A communication from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2005-52; Introduction" (FAC 2005-52) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 31, 2011; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1947. A communication from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; Prohibition on Contracting with Inverted Domestic Corporations" ((RIN9000-AL28)(FAC 2005-52)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 31, 2011; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1948. A communication from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; Technical Amendments" (FAC 2005-52) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 31, 2011; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1949. A communication from the Senior Procurement Executive, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Acquisition Regulation; Small Entity Compliance Guide" (FAC 2005-52) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 31, 2011; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1950. A communication from the Chairman, Merit Systems Protection Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Women in the Federal Government: Ambitions and Achievements"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1951. A communication from the Executive Director, U.S. Election Assistance Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to action taken on audit reports (for the period October 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011); to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1952. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Proliferation Security Initiative; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1953. A communication from the Director, Congressional Affairs, Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1954. A communication from the Administrator of the General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semiannual Report of the Inspector General and the Administrator's Semiannual Management Report to Congress for the period